

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED CASE CLOSURE

ConocoPhillips RM&R Site 05109
US 101 at CA 58 - East, Santa Margarita
San Luis Obispo County

GeoTracker Case No.
T10000002280

February 18, 2022

The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) is providing this notification to the landowners and interested parties near this cleanup site to notify you of the proposed closure and to solicit comments. This notification describes the site background, previous environmental investigations and cleanup, and rationale for closure.

La Junta Regional para el Control de la Calidad del Agua (Regional Water Quality Control Board) está notificándole a todos los inquilinos, propietarios, y a todas aquellas personas interesadas y que se encuentran cerca del área circundante al sitio donde se están llevando a cabo tareas de limpieza del suelo y de las aguas subterráneas, sobre el cierre de dicho sitio de limpieza y para solicitar comentarios. Con esta notificación, también se describen los detalles y antecedentes del sitio, investigaciones ambientales y de limpiezas anteriores y la razón por la cual se cierra el sitio. Si desea obtener información en español, póngase en contacto con Monica Barricarte al (805) 549-3881.

Introduction

The Central Coast Water Board is the State regulatory agency responsible for protection of groundwater and surface water quality within the Central Coast Region. The Central Coast Water Board oversaw the cleanup of the ConocoPhillips RM&R Site 05109 pipeline site (Site). The purpose of this notification is to provide the public with a summary of environmental investigations and cleanup activities related to the spill area and to solicit comments on the proposed case closure.

Site Background

Petroleum-impacted soil was discovered in the late 1980s when a storm drain system at the Site was being cleaned. Approximately 1,340 gallons of crude oil from impacted soil was removed via excavation and a French drain system was installed with a sump to

DR. JEAN-PIERRE WOLFF, CHAIR | MATTHEW T. KEELING, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

remove residual oil in 1988 and 1989. Available background information for the site is limited due to a fire that occurred at the Phillips 66 Santa Margarita pump station, reportedly destroying files maintained at that location.

Soil, sediment, surface water, and sump water samples were collected at the site between 2012 and 2016. Following the removal of crude oil using the sump, water with a slight oil sheen was observed. The specific amount of water removed between 1989 and 2017 is unknown; however, approximately 672 to 756 gallons of water with an oily sheen were removed during the last recovery event in 2017. There was concern that impacted water from the sump had the potential to reach the Santa Margarita Creek due to positive hydrostatic pressure observed in the sump riser.

Based on the analytical results from a Surface Water Quality Impact Assessment performed in 2017, it was recommended that the sump be abandoned. The oil recovery sump and drainage system at the site were removed and decommissioned in October 2019.

Environmental data summarized in this closure are available on GeoTracker:

<http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?gid=T10000002280>.

A draft Case Summary Form that summarizes details on the closure is available at:

<https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?surl=8m71p>.

Rationale for Closure

Central Coast Water Board staff recommends closure of this Site Cleanup Program case based on:

- Oil-impacted soil has been characterized and removed to the maximum extent practicable and below cleanup levels that are safe for human health and the environment.
- Crude oil and oil-impacted groundwater has been characterized and removed to the maximum extent practicable.
- The area where remedial excavation occurred has been restored, monitored, and revegetated.

Based on the available monitoring results and remediation efforts conducted, the Central Coast Water Board finds that there is no significant threat to water quality, human health, or the environment in the area of the crude oil discharge.

Public Comment Period

The public has 30 days to comment on the proposed closure of this cleanup case. All interested parties are required to submit their comments in writing on or before **March 21, 2022**, for Central Coast Water Board staff consideration. Comments and requests for information should be addressed to:

Lauren Gordon
Central Coast Water Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
Or email: lauren.gordon@waterboards.ca.gov

It is not necessary to respond to this public notice if you have no comments.

The Central Coast Water Board's Executive Officer plans to issue a case closure letter following the public comment period and resolution of any public comments.

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